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NBC NIGHTLY NEWS
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POPE/SHOOTING/ PLOT

BROKAW: I'm Tom Brokaw, NBC News, New York. There are new twists and turns tonight in the mystery of who wanted Pope John Paul killed and why. The man who did the shooting, Mehmet Ali Agca, shouted to reporters that he was trained by the Soviet KGB. Agca made that claim this evening as he was brought to the police station for questioning in another case. A man who claimed that he was a kidnapper of a member of a Vatican family is demanding that Agca be released. Ike Seamans in Rome tonight. SEAMANS: Fifteen-year-old Emanuella Luandi, the daughter of a Vatican City employee, was kidnapped three weeks ago. Her kidnappers want to swap her for Agca. After their latest demand today, Agca was brought to police headquarters in Rome for questioning. He is serving a life sentence for attempting to kill the pope. Later, speaking in Italian, Agca says he's sorry for the trouble, that he's not involved. Then, speaking in English, Agca surprised reporters by giving his details about Russian involvement in the plot to kill the pope. He said the Russians trained him. UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE REPORTER: And the KGB? AGCA: Yes. And KGB. I say I have been addressed, trained specially by the KGB.

UNIDENTIFIED REPORTER Where? AGCA: International terrorism. Specially trained in international terrorism.

UNIDENTIFIED ITALIAN REPORTER: (Inaudible). UNIDENTIFIED REPORTER: Where were you trained? AGCA: I have been trained in (inaudible) in Bulgaria. I have been in Bulgaria. I trained several times.

UNIDENTIFIED REPORTER: And in the Soviet Union, too? UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE REPORTER: Who trained you? AGCA: I have been trained by special experts on international terrorism.

UNIDENTIFED REPORTER: From which country? AGCA: The country in Syria and Bulgaria. I have trained several times.

SEAMANS: This is the first time Agca has said publicly what he's been telling investigators in private for two years. On the basis of his information, one Turk and two Bulgarians are in jail as possible accomplices. Five others are being sought. Ike Seamans, NBC News, Rome.

BROKAW: Agca said the Bulgarians, who have been named by Italian authorities, were his accomplices. But the Bulgarians insist that's not true. Just last week, the Bulgarian ambassador to the United States said that the stories of Bulgaria's involvement were quote, 'a campaign of slander.' So far tonight, no no further word from Bulgaria on these latest developments.

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